AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A lighting circuit for lighting a vehicular lamp ~~including~~ comprising a plurality of light source blocks respectively comprising a plurality of light-emitting diodes connected in series, comprising:

a selection unit operable to select at least one of the plurality of light source blocks, thereby selecting a ~~the~~ number of light-emitting diodes to be connected ~~in series~~ in said vehicular lamp based on an external instruction ~~from an outside~~;

a switch operable not to flow a current through at least one of the light source blocks not selected according to the selection of said selection unit;

a switching regulator operable to apply an output voltage based on a power-supply voltage output by an external DC power supply to said selected number of light-emitting diodes ~~connected in series~~, to supply a supply current to said selected number of light-emitting diodes; and

an output controlling unit operable to control said output voltage of said switching regulator based on said supply current.

2. (Currently Amended) A lighting circuit as claimed in claim 1, wherein

said vehicular lamp comprises ~~includes~~ two light source blocks connected in series,

~~said selection unit switches whether one of said two light source blocks is selected or both of said two light source blocks are selected, to select said number of said light emitting diodes to be connected in series in said vehicular lamp,~~

said ~~lighting circuit further comprises a~~ switch ~~that~~ is connected in parallel to a first ~~one~~ of said two light source blocks while being connected in series with a second ~~another one~~ of said two light source blocks,

said selection unit makes said switch conductive in a case where said first ~~one~~ of said two light source blocks is not selected, and

said switching regulator outputs said supply current having approximately the same magnitude irrespective of whether ~~when~~ said first ~~one~~ of said two light source blocks is selected ~~as that when said another one of said two light source blocks is selected~~.

3. (Currently Amended) A lighting circuit as claimed in claim 1, wherein

said ~~vehicular lamp includes two~~ plurality of light source blocks comprises two light source blocks connected in parallel,

~~each of said two light source blocks includes light emitting diodes connected in series,~~ a number of said light-emitting diodes in a first ~~one~~ of said two light source blocks is ~~being~~ different from that in a second ~~another one~~ of said two light source blocks, and

said selection unit selects a number of light-emitting diodes to be connected ~~in series~~ in said vehicular lamp by selectively switching ~~which~~ one of said two light source blocks ~~is selected~~.

4. (Currently Amended) A lighting circuit as claimed in claim 1, wherein

~~the~~ a number of said light-emitting diodes connected in series in said first ~~one~~ of said two light source blocks is smaller than ~~the~~ a number of said light-emitting diodes connected in series in said second ~~another one~~ of said two light source blocks,

said ~~lighting circuit further includes a~~ switch ~~that~~ is connected in series with said first ~~one~~ of said two light source blocks while being connected in parallel to said second ~~another one~~ of said two light source blocks, and

said selection unit makes said switch conductive in a case of selecting said first ~~one~~ of said two light source blocks.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (New) A lighting circuit for lighting a vehicular lamp, comprising:

two light source blocks connected in series, each light source block comprising one or more light emitting diodes connected in series;

a switch that is connected in parallel to a first of said two light source blocks while being connected in series with a second of said two light source blocks;

a selection unit operable to select at least one of said two light source blocks, thereby selecting a number of light-emitting diodes to be connected in series in said vehicular lamp based on an external instruction,

wherein said selection unit makes said switch conductive in a case where said first of said two light source blocks is not selected;

a switching regulator operable to apply an output voltage based on a power-supply voltage output by an external DC power supply to said selected number of light emitting diodes connected in series, to supply a supply current to said selected number of light emitting diodes connected in series,

wherein said switching regulator outputs said supply current having approximately the same magnitude when said first of said two light source blocks is selected as when said second of said two light source blocks is selected; and

an output controlling unit operable to control said output voltage of said switching regulator based on said supply current.

7. (New) A lighting circuit for lighting a vehicular lamp, comprising:

two light source blocks connected in series, each light source block comprising one or more light emitting diodes connected in series,

wherein a number of light-emitting diodes connected in series in a first of said two light source blocks is smaller than a number of light-emitting diodes connected in series in a second of said two light source blocks;

a switch that is connected in series with the first of said two light source blocks and connected in parallel to the second of said two light source blocks;

a selection unit operable to select at least one of said two light source blocks, thereby selecting a number of light-emitting diodes to be connected in series in said vehicular lamp based on an external instruction,

wherein said selection unit makes said switch conductive when selecting said first of said two light source blocks;

a switching regulator operable to apply an output voltage based on a power-supply voltage output by an external DC power supply to said selected number of light-emitting diodes connected in series, to supply a supply current to said selected number of light-emitting diodes; and

an output controlling unit operable to control said output voltage of said switching regulator based on said supply current.